

Wenham Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2005
Members Present

Leo Maestranzi (acting chairman)
Ken Whittaker
Phil Colarusso
Bob Burnett

Roland Bonnette
Linda Hansen (coordinator and
secretary)

7:30 – 9:30 PM CONSERVATION COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING

19:30 Minutes- A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by all present (5-0) to accept the minutes of July 11, 2005, with corrections noted. Two billed were approved.

19:32 Request for Determination

Grapevine Road sidewalk project

Dept. of Public Works

Present: Dan Lynch, Peter Hersee, Bill Sharmin, Tara Rand

Mr. Lynch presented the sidewalk plan for Grapevine Road. Plans are for a six foot wide sidewalk approximately 1600 feet in length. The sidewalk will be constructed from engineered wood fiber (self compacting material) with a base of filter fabric underneath (approx 16 inch of surface material removed for sidewalk). All surface material will be hauled out of area. This sidewalk material does not shed water (absorbent/permeable to water) and is handicap compliant. Start date for project is late summer/early fall.

Sidewalk will be located adjacent to wetland, just behind the tree line to protect pedestrians from soccer activities--leave a zone of trees and underbrush. One black cherry tree will be removed, plus all the shrubs/bushes along path will be removed. Wetlands have not been delineated, however the boundary is defined by a steep slope down to wetlands. Sidewalk location will be staked this week.

Commissioners will conduct site visit this Thursday, July 28, 9:00.

Motion to continue hearing, all approved (5-0)

19:43 Continued Public Hearing -- 2 Onion River Road

Order of Conditions – Daniel Chansky (DEP # 326-0215)

Present: Mr. John Dick

Rick Kirby (LEC) report discussed. Wetlands at its closest point is 14 ft from rock wall. Rather than move the wall, Rick suggested wetland mitigation, including removing silt fence, putting up signs to indicate wetlands/buffer zone, and plantings.

This action requires retrospective waiver on the site.

The commission requested an updated plan with new wetland line and location and types of plantings. Commissioner Maestranzi asked commissioners to continue with a restoration plan. Consensus was yes (3-1), Bob abstained. Roland voted no.

Motion to continue hearing, all approved (5-0).

20:02 Enforcement Action

24 Eddel Avenue – John Bucco

Present: John Bucco, John Dick, representing Mr. Bucco.

Linda Hansen discussed site visit on Thursday, July 21 and reported on the erosion of the fill into the wetland. John Bucco mentioned that the pool had collapsed and all the water had drained onto the fill. Fairly extensive erosion--silt fence compromised in a number of places.

John Dick presented three different plans for dealing with the fill:

- A. Place retaining wall at 30 ft buffer zone and remove fill between wetland and wall.
- B. Mitigation plan with property line retaining wall and keeping all the fill in place.
- C. Remove all fill.

Commissioner Maestranzi requested input from commissioners. Discussion regarding the extent of resource disturbance for either leaving fill in place or complete removal. Commissioner Maestranzi requested a letter from Mr. Bresnahan (neighbor) to approve the placement of a 3-ft retaining wall along his property line. The commission feels that if the neighbor approves, they would be amendable to Plan A, with additional plantings. Linda Hansen will call neighbor regarding wall construction. Commissioner requested a revised plan--Plan A with wetland plantings. John Dick asked for permission to rake the fill out of the wetland; approved.

Motion to continue hearing, all approved (5-0).

20:23 Amended Order of Conditions

4 Gussett Road (DEP file # 326-0275)

John Dick presenting. Also present were Susan Carpe, 8 Gussett Road and Marjorie Blume, 3 Gussett Road.

John Dick presented revised barn plan. Barn footprint has changed, including grading to accommodate drive out basement and driveway to basement level around the back (along the 30 ft buffer zone). Plans include a pair of retaining walls along the east side and one along the west side. Driveway will be an impervious surface. Substantial grading is planned in the 30 and 50 ft buffer zone. All work will be done in an existing lawn.

Abutter comments from Susan Carpe. Her comments concern omissions in the original orders of conditions. Specifically in Appendix A #2B, the omissions include pool house, private well on property, and playhouse and play structure that she believes are located in a wetland. In recent years, fill was brought in and the flow of the water (drainage) was altered. She requests original topography for this area. Also, grass plantings are fertilized and go to the edge of the wetlands that were not there originally.

Her other concern is the proposed barn and the associated runoff and drainage onto her property. The runoff from the roof was calculated for one inch of rainfall.

Commissioners reviewed it as a 2500 sq ft garage, now the plans are considerable larger. Marjorie Blume declined to comment.

John Dick does not feel that the proposed barn is regulated for storm water.

Barn will have gutters and downspouts, with dry wells and is designed for one inch rainfall. Runoff is designed to go perpendicular to wetland, south along the west side of the garage. Swale is located on the east side of the barn. Total sq footage of disturbed area in buffer zone is 7,000 sq ft. Total impervious surface area is roughly 15,000 sq ft.

Commissioner questions included the slope from the front of the barn to the back (9 ft 8 in) and whether floor drains will be installed. Commissioner Maestranzi believes that the garage plan meets all the prescribed setbacks and the burden of proof is on the commission to show wetland impacts, if any.

Susan Carpe asked if this type of project requires state approval and whether the plans include accommodations for animals. John Dick stated there is no intention to bring in animals. Motion to continue hearing, approved (5-0).

Certificate of Compliance

12 Great Pond Road (DEP file # 326-0268)

Linda Hansen visited the site on July 25, 2005 and confirmed the site was completed as permitted and stabilized. All in favor of granting COC (5-0).

Certificate of Compliance

16 Larch Row (Wenham Bylaw File # 011-2004)

Linda Hansen visited the site on July 21, 2005 and confirmed the site was completed as permitted and stabilized. Commissioner Whittaker abstained from voting. Four members in favor of granting COC (4-0).

Certificate of Compliance

15 Friend Court (DEP file # 326-0242)

Linda Hansen visited the site on July 21, 2005 and confirmed the site was completed as permitted and stabilized. All in favor of granting COC (5-0).

Certificate of Compliance

19 Hull Street (DEP file # 326-0126)

This action will be addressed at a later date due to death in the family.

Order of Conditions

40 Maple Street (DEP file # 326-0235) – Peter Scouras

Commissioner Burnett recused himself from this hearing. Commissioner Whittaker and Linda Hansen completed site visit on July 14, 2005. House construction is not complete and stone bounds were not in place. No COC granted until project completion.

21:12 Meeting adjourned. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by all present (5-0) to adjourn the meeting.

Linda Hansen, Coordinator

cc: Board of Selectman, Finance Committee, Planning Board, ConsCom Officer, Board of Health